

The present invention provides a novel gene, IAP, which encodes a soluble protein that is involved in the initiation of an inflammatory cytokine response and which may interact with the anti-inflammatory IL-13. The protein of the present invention may be involved as a central mediator in ischemia, reperfusion, asthma and other inflammation-induced pathological conditions. The invention relates to methods for using isolated polypeptides and polynucleotides, for detecting the early onset of chronic asthma, psoriasis, stroke, ischemia, reperfusion, leishmaniasis, helminthiasis, hypoxia, or other causes of renal, liver or heart failure in a mammal, where increased cytokine activity is known to play a role. The invention, further, relates to methods and compositions for detecting ischemia, specifically silent ischemia, by obtaining a test sample from a mammal, measuring the level of IAP mRNA or protein in the test sample, and determining if the level of IAP mRNA or protein measured in the test sample correlates with elevated levels indicative of an ischemia associated disease.